



JANUARY 1999

THE GARZETTE



VOLUME 9, ISSUE 1

The President's Pen

By Ike Chapman, KE4GYM



With the start of a New Year, it's natural to look back at the previous year and ahead to the coming year. I think it's safe to say that **GARS** had a good year in 1998 with a good number of milestones passed along the way. Although we had a few less activities during the past year, we did manage to stay busy along the way for the entire year, at least I did and I'm pretty sure the rest of the officers and committee chairmen will agree.

During 1998, we finished off the paper work for our 501(c)(3) status with the IRS and got that through the necessary channels and have been granted that status. We have a new club callsign, W4GR, which we'll be using at all our special events and Field Days in the coming years. We had the best **GARS** Field Day so far, in both terms of participation and in terms of score. A second place in the 7A classification, the top score for the state of Georgia, and in the top 35 nationwide.

We stayed active during the year with our regular events such as the Snellville Days Parade, the 5K Buford Run, JOTA, and the EAA 690 Fly-in. We held the first

annual **GARS** Techfest and Chili cook-off, which we hope to build upon and expand in the coming years. We opened some new channels with the March of Dimes and re-established ones with the Red Cross that I hope will continue to grow and flourish. And during the times of emergency, when tornadoes struck Hall and Gwinnett Counties, we had **GARS** members turn out in good numbers to support the ARES activities in support of operations in those counties.

We identified a new source of fund raising for the club and worked hard to make that pay off. We then turned around and invested those new funds back into the club with events such as our annual picnic and pig roast, the annual holiday party, and of course Field Day. We also undertook another expansion of the **GARS** communication system with upgrades to the 2 meter system, the start of expansion of the 440 MHz system, and initial work needed to get our 6 meter repeater online. We also got our web site relocated to a new server with a completely new layout.



Image by Brian Siegmund, KF4MWI

GARS 1998 Ham of the Year 'TEAM SWIDERSKI' Mike, K4HBI and Susan, AF4FO

Let me change directions now and congratulate our **GARS** Ham of the Year for 1998, Mike (K4HBI) and Susan (AF4FO) Swiderski. When we created this award several years ago, we wanted to recognize one club member for their significant contributions to ham radio and to **GARS**. We have always, however difficult, held to that notion and singled out one person each year. This year however, we did deviate a bit. But since you always see Mike and Susan working together on every event they participate in, we decided to recognize "Team Swiderski" as our choice for Ham of the Year. Congratulations Mike and Susan once again, and thanks for all the hard work and support that both of you have contributed to **GARS**.

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Don't Forget TechFest '99, January 23

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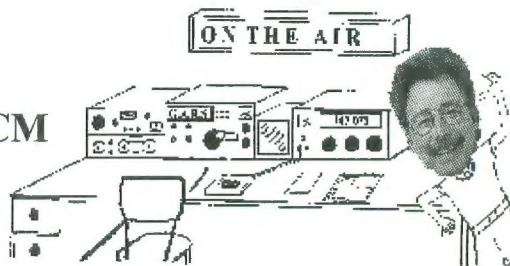
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On The Air with Paul Brisendine, K4HCM by Karl Phillips, K4GZZ

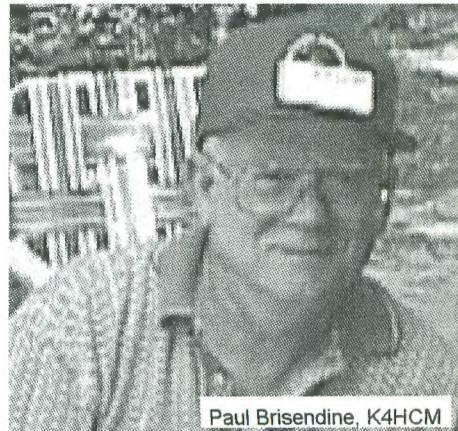


This month's ON THE AIR features Paul Brisendine - K4HCM. I have known Paul for about a year now. The first time Paul and I met was on the air during last year's Techfest, when he answered my CQ on 15 meters while we were operating the HF station from the Techfest site.

Paul was born in Savannah, Georgia and spent the very early part of his life there. After finishing the 4th grade Paul's family moved to a farm just up the road, between Statesboro and Brooklet, Georgia. There Paul went to and graduated from Brooklet High School.

After high school, Paul went to college for a year at what is now Georgia Southern University in Statesboro. Even though Paul did attend college for a year, he claims to have majored in "nothing". Well, if you major in nothing I suppose you wouldn't have much homework, now would you? Sounds like my kind of degree !!! After his stellar college career, Paul went to work in a manufacturing plant in Statesboro called Rockwell Manufacturing. This turned out to be Paul's career move, as he would later retire from this company, now known as Rosemount, 40 years later. Rockwell manufactured meters and valves used for measuring purposes.

Paul's amateur radio career began earlier, in 1957, when Paul got his novice ticket and was licensed KN4TDV. 1958 saw Paul get married and Paul sort of strayed away from operating for a while. Late in 1958, Paul got his Technician license and became W4YDE. Paul was operated as a novice with a DX-20....50 watts...on CW. After getting his Technician ticket, Paul operated 6 meters AM during the peak of a cycle in late 1958. His rig was a 6



Paul Brisendine, K4HCM

meter....35 watt Am transmitter. Paul worked all over the United States, Canada, Cuba and some real DX contacts in South America. Later on, a friend of his built a 125 watt 6 meter amp and Paul used that with his 5 element 6 meter beam.

In 1970, Paul relocated from Statesboro to Houston, Texas. Back then, if you moved out of a call district you had to change your call....so Paul became K5SMO, or phonetically (Six Meter Operator). Cool !!! Paul also became active on 2 meters, using a Regency HR-2 crystal controlled rig. Paul remained a Technician from 1970 to around 1991, but was basically inactive in that period. At that point, Paul claims to have been the oldest Technician in the world.

Paul and his wife moved back to Statesboro in 1973 and was active on 2 meters.....now as K4HCM. In 1979 he relocated to Harleysville, Pennsylvania and was active on CW with a Swan 350. Paul lived in Pennsylvania until 1986, but was not very active from that QTH. Paul moved to Atlanta in 1986, but did not get active until around 1992 when he got a handi-talkie.

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"I wanted my husband to Spend More time with me, but this was not the way"

By Reberta Rogers
N3IAR (ex:KA3VNB)

I threw a tangle of wet clothes into the dryer, then walked into the family room, where my husband, Bill, was chatting away on his ham radio in jargon that sounded like gibberish. *I'll never understand what he finds so interesting about this*, I thought. Bill signed off and turned to me.

"Oh, Hon, I wanted to remind you I have a club meeting this weekend to prepare to work the March of Dimes walkathon" he said. "And next week's the event."

"Two weekends in a row again!" I knew Bill loved his ham radio hobby and was doing an important service in providing communications at community events, but what about us?

"I wish you'd get a license and join me," Bill said. "My club has an amateur radio class starting next week."

I stalked back to the laundry room and began folding towels. We had been through this before. There was no way I was taking that class. Just looking at Bill's ham radio manuals with their references to picofarads and ohms panicked me. But I was also sick of being left out of such a big part of his life. I never thought I would be so lonely after 24 years of marriage.

Lord, I prayed for the umpteenth time, can't you bring us together? Isn't there some way?

I thought of the class. Maybe I could try it. But I was so busy with the boys. Then again, with two in college and only two left at home, I did have more free time—sometimes more than I could fill. But wasn't there something else Bill and I could do together—like a Bible study? I much preferred Psalms and Proverbs to radio frequencies and Morse code. Still, my mind kept coming back to the class, and I wondered, *Is God trying to tell me something?*

I threw up my hands. *Fine, I'll do it, but I don't see how it will help.*

A week later, I sat at a conference table in a church basement along with about 15 other aspiring hams. It took me a moment to grasp that our instructor Vic's odd last name, WA3YUV, was actually his ham call. *I will never get this stuff.*

During the following weeks I spent many agonizing hours learning about things like Yagi three-element anten-

Bringing Out the Ham in Me



nae and coaxial cables. I felt completely out of my element, but Bill kept rooting me on. Gradually I began murmuring Morse code signals for the names on mailboxes I passed on my daily walk. Still, I dreaded the weekly tests—because I got most of the answers wrong.

But one evening after a practice exam Vic informed us that, unbeknownst to us, we had actually taken the first half of the licensing exam. *Oh no!* I couldn't bring myself to look at Bill, who was standing in the back with some other hams. He would be disappointed.

"Yo, Bobbi!" Vic called. "You passed!" I stared at him, stunned. "But how?"

"As long as you correctly copy twenty-five characters in a row of Morse code anywhere on the exam, you pass. You did it!"

Bill whisked me out to celebrate. The next two weeks he quizzed me incessantly on the electronic theory questions that would be on the second part of the exam. When I passed, the pride in his face made the whole ordeal worthwhile.

Shortly after, my license arrived with my very own call sign—KA3VNB. But I was too petrified of ham jargon to use the radio. And I still wasn't spending

more time with Bill.

One afternoon I listened wistfully to the staticky chatter coming from Bill's radios. *Lord, I've come this far. What now?*

"CQ, CQ, this is WB5BIR in Texas standing by," said a clear male voice over the crackle of the radio. I remembered that CQ was a general call for a response. He called again. I got up and walked slowly to the radio. The call came a third time.

Here goes nothing. I took a deep breath and picked up the microphone. "Ah, WB5BIR, this is KA3VNB in Maryland. The name is Bobbi. Do you, uh, copy?"

WB5BIR turned out to be a guy named Al who was trying to win a contest making contacts in the most states in the shortest time. Then calls from other contestants flooded in. Two hours later Bill came home to find me hunched over the radio, rapidly logging calls from people all over the country.

Over the next two months I contacted more than 60 foreign countries, and soon passed the test for a more-advanced license. Now I was N3IAR and was allowed to do community-service projects with Bill.

One winter afternoon we were driving to a meeting in Virginia, where I had been invited to tell my story to encourage other women to get into ham radio. "Looks like I've created a monster!" Bill said, giving my hand a quick squeeze. I smiled and looked at the sunlight dappling through the trees. All along, God had been trying to tell me how much I was capable of, how I could get closer to Bill again. I had finally tuned in to listen.

Radio Direction Finding (RDF) Contests

by Ed Rollor N4ZRA

We are all familiar with using yagis and quads to increase our reception and transmitting distances for our home stations. They can be handy for public service events and emergency situations. Of course, they play an important part in radio direction finding (RDF) contests. These events can be exciting and provide training in finding radio signals from other sources or even illegal transmissions. Commonly referred to as "foxhunting" and "bunny chasing," or "T-hunting" these RDF events are becoming more popular in America every year.

Transmitter hunting seems to be one of the best kept secrets in ham radio, since the public seems to be completely unaware of these events. This was evident at the Athens Radio Club Foxhunt at Sandy Creek Park this summer. Even the security personnel at the park had no idea as to what was going on and why we were carrying around all the unusual looking gear.

The idea behind the hunt is simple: a transmitter, antenna, and power supply are taken to a selected spot, then turned on to make continuous or intermittent transmissions. The usual hunt uses a stationary transmitter, but mobile "bunnies" have become popular with some groups. Some hunts use more than one fox, which is common in European Foxhunting.

Foxhunts provide hams with an opportunity to meet and socialize with their competitors both before and after the event. In most events you find out your place and score shortly after the hunt is over. While searching for the fox you may encounter your competitors along the way, with opportunities to try to "psyche them out" or misdirect them. This type of event is great for "Techies" since it gives them the thrilling opportunity to find the hidden T with gear they made themselves. After the hunt one can find himself relentlessly working to improve his setup. Each hunt provides a new mystery and challenge to solve, because each hunt is a new start to discovering what you know and how good your equipment is. In fact, your past achievements are forgotten and you start off with opportunities to learn more, test your equipment, test your knowledge and compete against man and equipment.

These contests can be beneficial since you are gaining knowledge of RDF techniques, which can simplify such chores as finding a neighborhood source of power line interference or TV cable leakage. RDF also plays an im-

portant part in Amateur Radio self-policing. In some areas of the country there are standing agreements between Local Interference Committees and district FCC offices. These agreements permit volunteer ham RDFers to gather evidence leading to prosecution in serious cases or malicious interference.

Mobile T-hunts are becoming less popular due to traffic problems and therefore "First-In-Wins" hunts are less common than "Low-Mileage-Wins" hunts in areas with heavy traffic. For "Low-Mileage-Wins", Odometer calibration differences must be resolved. This is done by requesting hunters to obtain an odometer correction factor. A standardized course is driven in advance of the hunt and the mileage is turned into the hunt operator. This is used as a correction factor commonly referred to as the Crenshaw Factor. This name comes from a standardized course in California that runs along Crenshaw Boulevard for approximately 9 miles.

The right hiding place can make it difficult for hunters to get reliable bearings. A good hider can make the signal appear to be coming from some other location. With some clever devising in placement of the transmitter, the signal's characteristics can cause the hunters to approximate the transmitter from the most difficult route, even though the T maybe easily accessible from another and simpler route. Sometimes the hider will camouflage the setup so well that the hunters won't find the transmitter unless they almost trip over it.

In California, there are over twenty competitive hunt opportunities to choose from every month in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and Santa Barbara Counties. They are all different in some way, such as time or mileage scoring, day or night start, single or multiple transmitters, intermittent or continuous signal, wide or narrow boundaries, or perhaps there are no boundaries at all! Most hunts are on two meters with FM signals, but there are occasional FM hunts on the 50, 223 and 440 MHz bands. Some of their most challenging hunts are their All Day 2-meter RDF Event Hunts. Although very difficult, many enthusiasts like them best of all. The name is a misnomer, because these marathons often last the entire weekend. The transmitter(s) can be anywhere in the continental USA. The hunt starts in Rancho Palos Verdes. Hiding spots have included locations near Yosemite National Park, Las Vegas, Nevada, and St. George, Utah.

Not every foxhunt needs to be as arduous as the California hunts. Hunts can be simplified by having hiders make brief transmissions giving clues to marrow the search area. Hunters may prefer to go it alone, or team up. With team hunts, the driver can concentrate on handling the vehicle, while the DFers turn the beam and reads the meters. The DFer can also handle maps and plotting, unless there is a third team member for that task.

Some of the newer types of Foxhunting have an athletic and technical mix. These hunts are all on foot, no cars. There are 5 or 6 transmitters to be found and the starts are staggered with a 2-hour time limit. At the starting point you are given a competitor card with your name and start time on it. At each fox there is a special punch or colored pen used to mark your competitor card. When you find all the foxes, or as many as you can within the time limit, you head for the finish line. It is important to watch your time or you will be disqualified. Scoring is by the number of foxes found, and second by time. You can register in these events as an individual or as a team representing your club, city, family, etc. These contests sometimes offer cash and trophies as prizes.

For more information on equipment and hunting techniques, read Transmitter Hunting-Radio Direction Finding Simplified by K0OV and WB6UZZ. This book is obtainable for \$24.95 at many electronics and ham radio stores. It is also available by mail from bookstores of ARRL and 73 Amateurs Radio Today Magazine. For the latest T-hunting news, read the Homing In column monthly in 73 Amateurs Radio Today Magazine. Also, see the Homing In homepage at <http://members.aol.com/homingin/index.html#toc>.

A friend of mine, John Brandon (KE4PCF), shared an idea with me that I thought I would pass along, with his permission. John is an active member in the Lanier Amateur Radio Club and is very active in public service activities. During the tornadoes last spring, John found himself having to leave the group he was providing communications for to go to the spot where he could reach the Gainesville repeater, then go back and relay the information. With all that going back and forth, he began to formulate a better idea!

The components to build John's designs are:

- 2-Meter Mobile Transceiver
- Power Cord With Alligator Clips
- Mag Mount Antenna
- 12 Volt Lawn Tractor Battery
- Light Weight Luggage Cart

- Plastic Box Or Crate Attached To Luggage Cart
- Small Insulated Lunch Bag (Ideal Carrier For Transceiver)
- Pizza Or Other Ferrous-Based Baking Pan
- One ¾ Inch Tee (PVC)
- Four Or Five ¾ PVC Connectors
- Battery Charger With 2-Amp Charging Capability
- 2-5' Sections or ¾ Inch PVC Pipe

The plastic crate is fastened to the luggage cart with two universal clamps for stability and ease of transport.

Attach the tee to the center of the pan by any suitable method. John used a small piece of wood forced through the tee and then drilled a hole in each end to match holes drilled into the pan. The pan is attached using two small bolts.

Saw two feet off the end of each piece of PVC. This will give you two 3-foot sections and two 2-foot sections. The sections can be bundled for easy transport.

The battery, lunch bag, mag mount and power cord are packed in the crate. Secure the crate to the cart. With the handle collapsed, the whole thing will fit easily in the back seat or front passenger seat

To set up, find a level spot. Clamp one of the 3-foot sections to the corner of the crate, attach a tee to one of the 2-foot mast sections and use the connectors to add the other sections to for a mast.

Attach the antenna to the radio and connect the power cord to the battery, making sure that the polarity is correct! Attach the cord to the radio. Place the antenna onto the baking pan, and you're ready to transmit!

You can modify this design to fit your needs, but I thought it was a great idea! John carried a folding canvas chair as part of his "kit". Most of the time there is no place to sit when setting up in the field.

GARS Electronic Mail List



If you have an EMail address and have not yet registered it with the club and wish to do so, please send a message to **Jack Herndon, WU4H** and request to be added to the list. Send to: wu4h@jherndon.org

Chintzy QSL Cards

By Dean Matthews, AD4OD

European QSL cards... don't you, love them. There are foil covered, embossed textured wonders, photo beauties depicting some beautiful attribute of the area, and even exquisite hand drawn art on some exotic paper. They really go all out.

From the Pacific islands it is not uncommon to see the beautifully drawn maps, or photos of the island paradise from where the signal originated... often with the ham worked shown in the photo. A slowly hand-written signal report, with a small personal note about the contact is not uncommon. If mailed, these foreign QSL's often include a beautiful or rare (though current) version of the local postage.

Many of these countries have cost of living-to-income ratios far higher than ours. Many of these hams might be considered poor, if compared the average U.S. ham. But what do these people receive in return?

The vast majority of U.S. hams send back plain, generic stock cards. No photo. No original art. Certainly no exotic foil or paper. Just a callsign and address... typically in



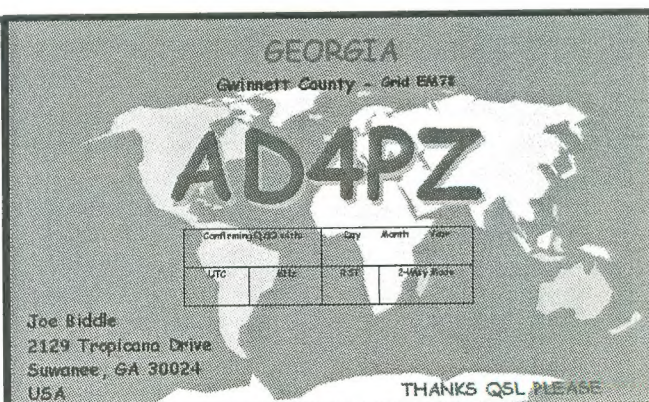
The author (*left*) displays some of his shack along with himself. Cards like this can be produced by numerous printing services and takes very little work. All you need is a photograph and you can have infinite options, like club member Toshi (*left*) who created a collage of four meaningful images.



black-and-white, and usually a computer generated label with the signal report on it, plastered on the reverse side, a little askew... because it would have taken .032 seconds longer to line the label up right.

No wonder you read articles about the QSL return rate being at an all time low. These foreign hams undoubtedly feel cheated, trading a 25 cent masterpiece that took him five minutes to prepare for a .02 cent monochrome piece of junk with a label on it. I guess the ultimate insult would be one of those classy Europeans getting back one of

Commercially pressed or hot off the printer, ones like this can be made easily with Microsoft Word.

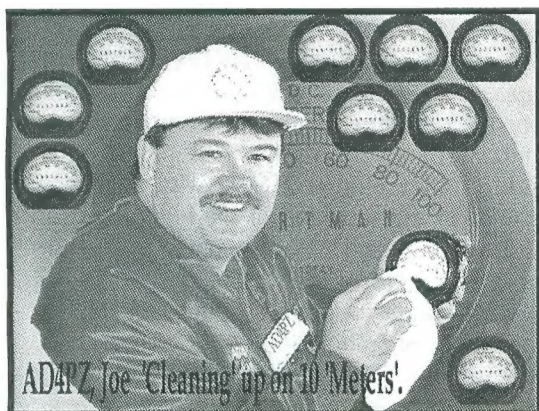


Make sure you see these on the GARS web site for the 'COLOR'.

those stock cards, with even the callsign and address information written in.

Come on, everybody. Lets get cards made up to be proud of. If you don't feel you are creative, enlist the aide of someone who is. Create a card that promotes your area, your country and you. If you are really that cheap, then maybe a generic card might be totally appropriate.

Many of these people overseas are avid collectors. Lets make the "final courtesy" something special, and something to look forward to for these foreigners. Then maybe they won't be "beaming to South America" all the time when you want to work them.



*If you've got
the tools,
some cards
can be
creative and
inject a bit
of
humor.
Get the Pun
from Joe?*

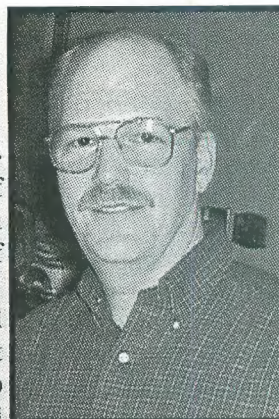


*Editors Note:
I had to include
this one.
It's one of MY
favorites.
It not only has
simplicity but
also a wonderful
and warm sense
of humor.
It's even
copyrighted.*

*Thanks to
Sandy Nash,
K3SN*

Running for President

I am David Adcock, KA4KKF and I'm running for President of GARS. I've been a ham since 1979. The class of license I hold is advance. GARS is a very special club with a lot of different people in it. This makeup gives GARS its special uniqueness.



This year will be a challenge to keep our club moving into the 21st century. I believe I can do this. Everyone likes to use the repeater and have a lot of social gatherings. Well so do I. Balancing the social gatherings, the public services and other services that help keep the club going will be my main priority. I can't do this myself and the executive committee can not do this alone. It will take the help of all club members at one time or another. I hope you will help me continue to make GARS a radioactive club. Let's put fun in the activities we do. If you want to help guide the club into the next century, call me to volunteer for a position. Hope to see you at the February meeting for the election of officers.

Don't Forget TechFest '99, January 23

DECEMBER Meeting Minutes

by John Sokol, K9AOK - Secretary

Sorry None to post for December!



Santa paid a visit to the GARS Christmas Holiday Party Chairman Tammy Sokol. Santa handed out over \$500 worth of Door Prizes including a Handheld

...The President's Pen

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This award was announced at the annual **GARS** Christmas Party which was held on December 18th. First let me thank Tammy and John (K9AOK) Sokol for a tremendous job in organizing the party. Everything was first rate and all of us very much appreciate the effort. Thanks also to Kevin McClure, KF4HFN for providing us with his services and DJ and to Howie Gould, W4NVF for securing some of the door prizes that were given away. The annual **GARS** Service Awards were given out to all those people who participated in club activities during the year. The list of recipients is way too long to reproduce here but I want to thank each and everyone that received an award for their assistance in 1998. If you weren't able to attend the party we still have your award and will pass them out at the club meeting in January.

Yes, I think we can look back and say it was a good year. But there's lots of room for improvement and we can look forward to 1999 with that in mind. There are already several things underway as we start the year. We're working on applying for non-profit status with the Post Office to reduce our mailing costs for the newsletter. We have the continued expansion of the **GARS** communications system that I referred to above that will be continuing. While we had hoped to get the 6 meter repeater online before the end of 1998, we certainly will be online early in 1999. Our first activity of the year is upon us as Techfest 1999 will be held on January 23rd. Its also time to look at our activity plans for 1999 and map out what events we want to support and participate in during the year. We have elections for officers coming up in February with many of the current officers either stepping down or seeking new positions. We'll have changes in the composition of the committee chairmen and the support committees,

so now is a really good time to consider how you want to support the club during 1999.

In describing all the events and gains of 1998 and the plans for 1999, I used the word "we" to describe the effort and that was certainly true. For the most part in 1998 when an event was planned we were able without much trouble to staff the event. There were some occasions where some poking and prodding was necessary to get the number of people involved that we needed but almost always in our **GARS** fashion when we called they came. My challenge to each club member as we begin the new year and as I prepare to hand over the reigns of the club, is to get involved with at least one club activity during the coming year. Whether it's a public service event, a fund raising event, or an event like the picnic or holiday party, take the time to get involved and you'll find how much fun you can have and how rewarding the effort will make you feel.

GARS received an award from the Boy Scouts of America, presented by Earl Whatley, AF4FG on their behalf for our support of Scout activities. The award consisted of a very nice plaque which will be on display at the January club meeting and then will become part of the club archives. Lowry Rouse, KM4Z was awarded a plaque from **GARS** in appreciation of his leadership and organization of the ARES and Skywarn group in Gwinnett County. Lowry wasn't able to attend the party so ARRL Georgia Section Manager Sandy Donohue, W4RU accepted the award on Lowry's behalf.

That about does it for me for this month, don't forget our meeting on January 21st where we'll have the first round of nominations for next month's elections and we'll also be discussing a budget for the first half of 1999. Hope to see you there and/or at our weekly breakfasts at the Golden Corral restaurant in Lawrenceville.



Barbara Moon, KF4UPN (left) won the 6-meter Handie Talke at the 1998 GARS Holiday Christmas Party. These and more scenes on Page 10.

Images by Brian Siegmund, KF4MWI

Don't Forget TechFest '99, January 23

...On the Air

(Continued from page 2)

Paul joined GARS in 1992 and became active on 2 meters. Paul says GARS and especially Pickett Cummins - AD4S, gave him the encouragement that he needed to become active and upgrade to General which he did in 1996. Paul says he owes a great deal of gratitude to Pickett and GARS for the incentive the club gave him. With that encouragement, Paul got his Advanced ticket last April. Paul cites the friendliness and helpfulness of the GARS members as the clubs strongest assets and that the clubs' constant participation in recruiting new hams and getting members to upgrade is especially appreciated.

Paul retired from Rosemount in October of 1997 and basically has worked for the same company since 1957. The company, like many other companies nowadays, went through many restructuring changes through those years.

Paul and his wife have been married 40 years. They have one daughter, that still lives in Pennsylvania. They have two grandchildren...2 boys ages 3 and 9 months.

Paul's ham gear consists of a 2 meter hand held, a Ten-Tec Scout and a Ameritron AL-811 600 watt amplifier. Paul, like myself, is also into QRP operating and has a Ten-Tec 30 meter..5 watt..QRP CW rig into a longwire antenna. Paul still has that old Swan 350, a MFJ tuner and that old 6 meter rig. Paul's primary antenna, at the moment, is a G5RV. He also has a tri-band dipole for 10-15 and 20 meters. Paul has some scheduled improvements to his station coming up within the next few months. Paul has a Cushcraft A3S beam to assemble and a 40 foot tower. The trouble is....the tower is currently erected in the

sellers yard and Paul is shooting for a January 9th date to organize a "de-assembling party" to take that "bad boy" down for raising it in his yard. That tower, along with the Cushcraft beam will upgrade Paul's station significantly.

Paul has had some memorable QSO's. It seems, Paul has a definite "knack" for working aeronautical mobile ham stations. He's worked three. One was a military flight from Europe. Paul worked the radio operator at 30,000 feet off the coast of Newfoundland (the plane was at 30,000 feet....not Paul!!) The pilot was from Atlanta and they were headed this way so they asked Paul for a "weather check".

Another was a plane in the Gulf of Mexico, returning from Central America. Two weeks ago, Paul worked an aeronautical mobile station over Ohio, doing touch and go's. About 2 years ago, Paul was unable to contact, but heard the Space Shuttle as it passed over Houston. One of the astronauts was talking to his wife, probably receiving his "honey-do" list from the ground !!!

During our conversation Paul was in the process of building a small QRP rig called a Fireball 40 that runs 40mw. Paul says you can up the power to a full watt with an add-on kit.

It was a pleasure to kick off 1999 and feature Paul in my On the Air feature. Paul has been a good friend for a year now, has a good sense of humor and is a very active and dedicated ham. Get to know Paul and you won't regret it. Since Paul is now retired.... you should have no problem finding him.... Best 73 to all....HAPPY NEW YEAR and good DX. I'll be back with another feature in February !!!

Karl - K4GZZ

FEBRUARY Birthdays Within GARS

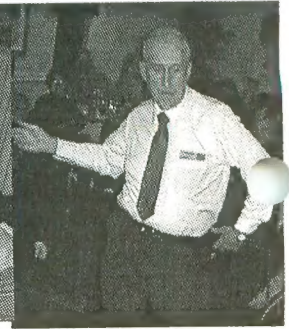
By Jack Herndon, WU4H

2	KF4RLZ	Manuel Dominguez
4	KF4MZD	John Kemker III
4	WA4DSY	Dale Heatherington
5	K4HBI	Michael Swiderski
6	WA4LLM	Don Deyton
6	W9RR	George Sensibar
8	KF4MWJ	Sara Madden
8	KD4OTB	James Plofehan
9	WD4JEM	Eddie Foust
9	KD4SCY	John Immel
10	KE4EIH	Bill Ahls
10	KF4PS	Darwin Christensen
11	W4WNK	William Kelly
11	WA4ZUW	Carlton McPherson
12	W4JLB	Larry Busbee
12	KT4VV	Benny Mitchell
15	KF4DVL	Ben Blumenfeld
15	AK8E	James Flournoy
16	KD4CVR	Dale Goodman
22	KE4YWF	Kathy Baker
22	KA4SFG	Don Ray
22	W4ADE	Ade Wirth
24	KF4TQV	Frank Saucianas
24	WT4TOM	Tom Ewing
24	KD4QPC	Chuck Robison

**Don't Forget
TechFest '99, January 23**



Don't Forget



REWARD FOR RETURN OF STRAY CURRENT

A reward is offered for information leading to the arrest of EDDIE CURRENT, charged with the INDUCTION of an eighteen year old COIL, called MILLI HENRY, who was found half CHOKED, and with the theft of valuable JOULES.

The UNRECTIFIED criminal, armed with a CARBON ROD, escaped from his PRIMARY CELL at ZING ZING, where he had been CLAMPED in IONS. The escape was planned in THREE PHASES. First, he FUSED the ELECTROLYTES, he then climbed through the GRID, despite the IMPEDANCE of the WARDERS, and finally ran to earth in a MAGNETIC FIELD. He has been missing since FARADAY.

What seems most likely is that he stole an AC MOTOR. This is of low CAPACITY and he is expected to change it for a MEGACYCLE and return to OHM by way of SHORT CIRCUIT. He may offer SERIES RESISTANCE and is a POTENTIAL killer.

Poor EDDIE, I AMP sure it was not his VOLT!

Submitted by Paul McInnish, K4BET

**Don't Forget
TechFest 1999,
January 23**

12 Store Buying Power!

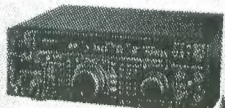


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• 300 Memories
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• Compact & backlit keypad
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• Battery Saver
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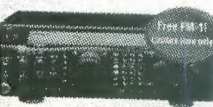
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THE GARZETTE

JANUARY 1999

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048



GARS meets the third Thursday of each month at Central Baptist Church on Gwinnett Drive in Lawrenceville. The next meeting will be the January 18 at 7:30 P.M

GARS Publishes Metro Area VE/VEC Exam Schedules as a Service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

1st Sunday - 2:00pm WCARS VEC
Terry Jones, K4FB 770-967-6364
Johnson High School
3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainesville

1st Saturday - 9:00AM
George White, KN4NG 361-6850
Clayton Co. Emergency Mgmt. Bldg.
7496 N. McDonough St. - Jonesboro

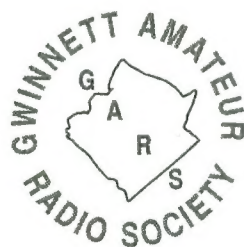
2nd Tuesday - 7:00PM
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA 498-7759
Walton EMC, 3645 Lenora Church Rd,
Snellville

2nd Saturday - 8:30AM - CA VEC
Hal Martin, KI4RD - 978-9160
Stone Mountain Methodist Church
5312 West Mountain St., Stone Mtn.

3rd Saturdays - 9:00AM - CA VEC
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ - 955-3171
Marietta First United Methodist Church 56
Whitlock Ave, Room 305

4th Tuesday - 7:00PM ARRL VEC
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK - 942-6466.
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville

4th Friday - 7:00PM W5YI-VEC
Howie Gould, W4NVF 921-8362
St. John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks
Trickum Rd, Lilburn
Headphones Provided!



Atlanta Area Nets and Round Tables

Mon	50.235	8:30PM	Regional 6 Meter SSB Net
Mon	147.21+	9:00PM	Conyers ARES Net t-162.2
Mon	145.45-	8:00PM	ARES Net (Decatur)
Mon	145.47-	8:00PM	North Fulton ARL Net
Mon	145.41-	8:30PM	MATPARC Net
Mon	3.975	8:00PM	Swap Net
Mon	147.075+	9:00PM	Gwinnett ARES Net
Tue	147.075+	8:00PM	GARS Weekly Net
Tue	147.075+	9:00PM	GARS CW Practice
Tue	145.47-	10:30PM	Insomniac Net
Tue	28.420	7:30PM	Ten Meter Traders Net
Wed	145.41	11:30AM	Boy Scout Youth Net
Wed	145.150-	8:00PM	Georgia Tech Stinger Net
Wed	145.41-	8:00PM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Wed	146.67-	9:00PM	LARC Net
Thu	146.88-	8:30PM	Kennehoochee ARC
Thu	147.225+	8:00PM	NE Ga ARC
Thu	147.15	8:00PM	simplex
Thu	145.41-	9:30PM	AMSAT
Thu	427.25ATV	9:00PM	Amateur Television, ATV
Fri	146.655 Voice		
Fri	3.898	8:00PM	GA Traders Net
Fri	145.47-	8:00PM	NFARL Youth Net
Fri	146.45-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net
Sat	7.275	8:00AM	Swap Net
Sat	3.857	9:00AM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Sat	146.45-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net
Sun	146.82-	8:00PM	ARC Net
Sun	146.76-	7:00PM	Roundtable AMRC t-107.2
Sun	7.275	9:00AM	GA Traders Net
Sun	3.983	5:00PM	GA ARES
Daily	146.76-	Noon	Brown Bag Net t-107.2
Daily	146.88-	11:00PM	Late Nite Owl Net
Daily	146.79-	8:00PM	Sassafras Mtn.
Daily	3.975	6:00PM	WX & Skywarn

This is a "living list", meaning it is constantly changing. If you know of additions or changes to it please contact the Editor.